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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Yugoslavia/USSR	REPORT		50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Soviet-Yugoslav Meeting in Belgrade	DATE DISTR.	19 July 1955	
		NO. OF PAGES	2	
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	50X1-HUM
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		
DATE ACQUIRED				

BY CABLE

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1. At no time during the Soviet visit to Belgrade did the Soviet representatives mention the question of China or of Indo-China nor did they indicate that they were under the impression that rearmament and war would eventually occur.<sup>1</sup> Tito reportedly made one attempt to sound out the Soviets by mentioning China to Khrushchev but received no answer. The Yugoslavs are under the impression that the members of the Soviet delegation were careful to avoid any discussion of China while they were in Belgrade.
2. The following points became clear to the Yugoslavs in analyzing the visit of the Soviet delegation:
  - a. The Soviet top leaders are very badly informed, and entertain a gross misconception of Western goals, political concepts and personalities. Tito is under the impression that many beliefs nurtured during the Stalin era are still rampant in the minds of Soviet officialdom.
  - b. Despite the fact that the Soviet-Yugoslav declaration ostensibly repudiates the political philosophy of bloc politics, Tito claims it is very evident to him that Soviet officials still view the world as existing in the form of two blocs, the U.S. bloc and its adherents and the Soviet bloc. Tito believes he failed to convince the Soviets that the West was not a bloc according to the Soviet definition.
  - c. The Yugoslavs believe that the Soviet Government is earnest in its endeavor to seek peace. As a result of their talks with the Soviet

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delegation the Yugoslavs are of the opinion that the Soviet Union is facing tremendous economic problems, particularly those associated with keeping their war machine up to date and modern. The migration of farm workers to industry is also causing the Soviet Union enormous difficulties.

3. The Yugoslavs believe that China is making economic demands on the Soviet Union which the latter cannot fill. The Yugoslavs further believe that the U.S. realizes this and will use this eventually as a lever to force U.S.-China talks. The Soviet delegation made no mention of this while in Belgrade, however.

1.   Comment: The text of the joint Soviet-Yugoslav declaration states that all nations should attempt to reach agreements making it possible to solve problems such as "the satisfaction of the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China with regard to Formosa."

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